

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This Listing of Claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in this application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Original) An electrolyte for a photovoltaic device comprising (i) a layered clay mineral and/or an organically modified layered clay mineral and (ii) an ionic liquid.
2. (Previously Presented) The electrolyte for a photovoltaic device as claimed in claim 1, wherein said layered clay mineral and/or organically modified layered clay mineral is formed from a swelled dispersion of solvent and/or ionic liquid.
3. (Previously Presented) The electrolyte as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least part of exchangeable inorganic ions of said organically modified layered clay mineral is ion exchanged with organic onium ions.
4. (Previously Presented) The electrolyte as claimed in claim 1, wherein said ionic liquid is at least one member selected from the group consisting of quaternary ammonium salts, imidazolium salts, pyridinium salts and pyrrolidinium salts.
5. (Previously Presented) A photovoltaic device comprising a photoelectrode including a transparent conducting layer and a metal oxide semiconductor mesoporous film, a counter electrode arranged facing said photoelectrode and an electrolyte layer arranged between said photoelectrode and said counter electrode, wherein electrolyte layer is an electrolyte according to claim 1.
6. (Currently Amended) The photovoltaic device as claimed in claim 5, wherein [[a conductive substrate]] the counter electrode of the photovoltaic device is obtained by coating, on a substrate, a conductive polyaniline dispersion stably dispersed in an organic solvent comprising

(A) a polyaniline obtained by polymerization of aniline or an aniline derivative, (B) a sulfonic acid compound and/or (C) an organic polymer having a protonic acid group, (D) a molecular weight modifier, and (E) an organic solvent capable of dissolving the sulfonic acid compound (B), the organic polymer having a protonic acid group (C), and the molecular weight modifier (D).

7. (Previously Presented) The photovoltaic device as claimed in claim 6, wherein said molecular weight modifier is at least one aniline derivative having a substituent at the 4-position.

8. (Previously Presented) The photovoltaic device as claimed in claim 6, wherein said polyaniline (A) is produced in the presence of a phase transfer catalyst.

9. (Currently Amended) A dye-sensitized solar cell comprising a photovoltaic device according to claim 5 and a photosensitizing dye carried on [[a]] the metal oxide semiconductor mesoporous film of the photovoltaic device.

10. (Previously Presented) The electrolyte as claimed in claim 2, wherein said ionic liquid is at least one member selected from the group consisting of quaternary ammonium salts, imidazolium salts, pyridinium salts and pyrrolidinium salts.

11. (Previously Presented) A photovoltaic device comprising a photoelectrode including a transparent conducting layer and a metal oxide semiconductor mesoporous film, a counter electrode arranged facing said photoelectrode and an electrolyte layer arranged between said photoelectrode and said counter electrode, wherein electrolyte layer is an electrolyte according to claim 10.

12. (Previously Presented) The electrolyte as claimed in 3, wherein said ionic liquid is at least one member selected from the group consisting of quaternary ammonium salts, imidazolium salts, pyridinium salts and pyrrolidinium salts.

13. (Previously Presented) A photovoltaic device comprising a photoelectrode including a transparent conducting layer and a metal oxide semiconductor mesoporous film, a counter electrode arranged facing said photoelectrode and an electrolyte layer arranged between said photoelectrode and said counter electrode, wherein the electrolyte layer is an electrolyte according to claim 12.

14. (Previously Presented) A photovoltaic device comprising a photoelectrode including a transparent conducting layer and a metal oxide semiconductor mesoporous film, a counter electrode arranged facing said photoelectrode and an electrolyte layer arranged between said photoelectrode and said counter electrode, wherein the electrolyte layer is an electrolyte according to claim 2.

15. (Previously Presented) A photovoltaic device comprising a photoelectrode including a transparent conducting layer and a metal oxide semiconductor mesoporous film, a counter electrode arranged facing said photoelectrode and an electrolyte layer arranged between said photoelectrode and said counter electrode, wherein the electrolyte layer is an electrolyte according to claim 3.

16. (Previously Presented) A photovoltaic device comprising a photoelectrode including a transparent conducting layer and a metal oxide semiconductor mesoporous film, a counter electrode arranged facing said photoelectrode and an electrolyte layer arranged between said photoelectrode and said counter electrode, wherein the electrolyte layer is an electrolyte according to claim 4.

17. (Previously Presented) The photovoltaic device as claimed in claim 7, wherein said polyaniline (A) is produced in the presence of a phase transfer catalyst.

18. (Previously Presented) A dye-sensitized solar cell comprising a photovoltaic device according to claim 6 and a photosensitizing dye carried on a metal oxide semiconductor mesoporous film of the photovoltaic device.

19. (Previously Presented) A dye-sensitized solar cell comprising a photovoltaic device according to claim 7 and a photosensitizing dye carried on a metal oxide semiconductor mesoporous film of the photovoltaic device.

20. (Previously Presented) A dye-sensitized solar cell comprising a photovoltaic device according to claim 8 and a photosensitizing dye carried on a metal oxide semiconductor mesoporous film of the photovoltaic device.